

(b) The export promotion measures taken by STC and MMTC to boost Exports, especially the export of non-traditional value-added items include the following.

- Arranging Imported and indigenous raw materials/accessories, wherever required;
- Providing financial assistance, wherever necessary, to their associate suppliers of export products;
- Participation in overseas trade/commodities fairs/exhibitions;
- Sending of sale teams/delegations abroad for trade negotiations/promotion;
- Sending of samples and offers to potential foreign buyers;
- Using leverage on imports to generate counter-trade exports;
- More emphasis on direct buying and selling;
- Creation of more and more captive/committed sources of supply;
- Promotion of gem and jewellery through infrastructural development (MMTC);
- Export of mining machinery to select markets (MMTC).

#### **Excise Duty Outstanding against Bidi Manufacturing Units**

2704. DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of excise duty out-

standing against Bidi Manufacturing Units; and

(b) the details of such units and the action proposed to be taken by the Government to recover these dues from them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Rupees two Crores approximately.

(b) Among such units, there are a large number of small units against whom central excise duty arrears are outstanding, and there are even cases where the amount outstanding is in hundreds only. Therefore, a list of such units would be too long, and time, effort and expenditure involved in compiling and furnishing this information would not be commensurate with the results that may be achieved. Administrative, legal and other steps as are considered necessary to recover the amounts due continue to be taken.

#### **Export of Fish and Prawn from Paradip Port**

2705. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to export fish and prawn from the Paradeep port on completion of the fishing harbour;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to expedite the construction work of the fishing harbour?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) and (b). Fish and prawn are already being exported through this port. The quantity of export is expected to go up on completion of the fishery harbour.